

*Jennifer Bradley  
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**Testimony in Support of  
S.B. No. 318, 'An Act Concerning Private School Transportation'**

Before the Education Committee

March 2, 2016

As a teacher at Saint Paul School, and a parent, I support S.B. No. 318.

Saint Paul School is a wonderful community of students, teachers, and parents who are dedicated to Catholic education. Our mission is to educate the whole child, supporting the development of our students spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, socially and physically. We encourage our students to be 21st century learners and problem solvers, models of Christ, moral leaders in service to others, and creators of a more humane and just world.

Recent Catholic school closings have brought more students to our doors, and while we gladly welcome them, we are mindful of the additional sacrifices and responsibilities of transportation this places on parents. Before I became a teacher at Saint Paul School, I wanted my own child to attend a K-8 Catholic grade school, but there was no convenient transportation option available in my home community of Tolland to make this feasible. No parent should be forced to deny a child a potential educational opportunity simply because of transportation.

Please keep access to our schools alive and viable for all children by allowing state reimbursements for inter-district transportation for K-8 nonpublic schools.

For these reasons, I urge the committee to support S.B. No. 318.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Bradley

Language Arts Teacher  
Saint Paul School